

Civil Division: Mohawk Valley Water Authority
Jurisdictional Class: Competitive
EEO Category: Technicians
Revised: 07/18/17

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
(Water Authority)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position exists with the Mohawk Valley Water Authority. This is technical laboratory work involving responsibility for carrying out routine tests for the sanitary, chemical and physical analysis of water. A high degree of alertness and accuracy is required, since errors may result in danger to the health of the citizens of the community. The work is performed under general direction of the department head, who is available for consultation on difficult or unusual problems. Supervision is may be exercised over the activities of a small number of subordinates. Incumbent performs related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only)

Makes routine sanitary analysis of raw and treated water including physical, chemical, bacteriological and microscopic examinations;
Tests water samples for color, turbidity, tastes, odors, oxygen value, hardness, alkalinity, chlorides, iron, pH value and related factors;
Performs special tests of water to determine mineral analysis, common and uncommon toxic elements, and chemical balance;
Inspects laboratory equipment to ensure proper condition including incubator, sterilizer, turbidimeter, water still, comparators and glassware;
Performs standard calibrations of monitoring equipment under the guidance and direction of supervisors;
Checks laboratory safety practices and sees that they are carried out;
Makes recommendations for improved procedures and systematizes work to ensure efficient operations including basic troubleshooting for any system failures;
Records results of tests, maintains a variety of laboratory records, and prepares activity reports;
Supervises, and participates in, a wide variety of technical, clerical and housekeeping activities in the water analysis laboratory;
Collects samples as directed by supervisor(s).

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of modern techniques, testing practices, equipment, safety precautions and terminology used in a water analysis laboratory; good knowledge of the principles of bacteriology, biology, chemistry and physics as they relate to water analysis; good knowledge in the operation and care of water laboratory apparatus and equipment; ability to understand and carry out technical oral and written directions; ability to maintain technical records and prepare related activity reports; ability to lay out and supervise the work of others; thoroughness; dependability; high degree of accuracy; good hand and eye coordination; good judgement.

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

- (A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate Degree in chemistry, biology, physics, earth science, or a closely related field; **OR**
- (B) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma **AND** two (2) years of technical experience in an industrial, medical or public health laboratory.

NOTE: Verifiable part-time experience will be pro-rated toward meeting full-time experience requirements.

Adopted: 05/22/97

Revised: 03/17/04, 07/18/17